



SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

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ORDER ALLOCATION MANAGEMENT METHOD AND ORDER ALLOCATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to an order allocation management method and management system thereof.

In businesses where manufacturers deal with customers directly, transactions utilizing computer networks such as the Internet are rapidly increasing. A server typically provides product information through the Internet, and customers can operate a computer terminal on their end to select their product choices. In some on-line systems, customers can select different constructions and optional parts of the end products they desire to purchase, and send requests for final estimates to the server. When the server returns an estimate, if desired, the customers can place their orders. Once the server has received the orders from the customers, the server can send order information to a host computer. Based on the order information, the host computer can automatically issue instructions and the like for shipment and order processing of the parts needed in the end product. The instructions are transferred to assembly lines of personal computers, warehouses, and management departments to proceed with shipping processing. The sales cost can be remarkably reduced if all steps from ordering to issuing of instructions are automatically processed by a computer system.

However, conventional techniques such as those described above can suffer from drawbacks. At the time of issuing final estimates to customers, the inventory of the parts comprising a particular product are checked in order to allocate the parts to be used for that product. More specifically, the estimates are issued only

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